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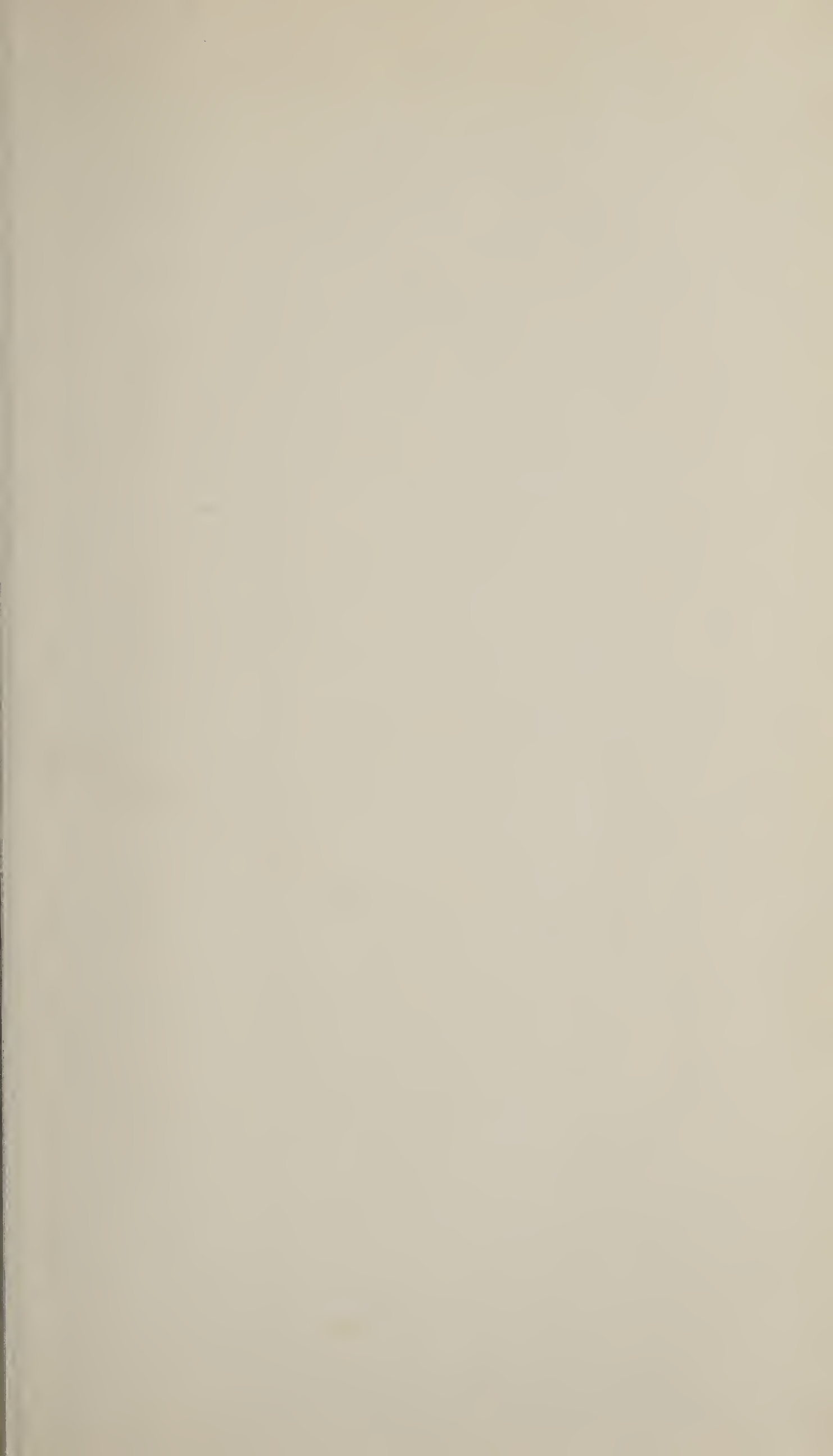
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Descendants

of

Heijen and Gepke Wessels

Descendants

of

Heijen and Gepke Wessels

Compiled by

Adalyn Willim Laymiller

Second Edition

1940

CONCERNING THE FAMILY---

Heijen Renken Wessels* was born in 1802, in Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, of parents who were landowners and members of the German Reformed (Presbyterian) Church. About 1832 he married Gepke Janssen Schmidt, daughter of wealthy landowners of Neermoor, Ostfriesland.

Gepke's family were Huguenots, but when they left France available records fail to show. "Fosbaugh," the ancestral home, was so called from the family name of her mother, Janteje Fosbaugh Schmidt. During at least a part of the militia period* of his military service Gepke's father served in Queen Elizabeth's* own militia, and worked in her gardens between drill periods. Some of the older grandchildren recall seeing pictures of their great grandfather in his full militia regalia. Other than the names of two brothers, Jan and Gerred, little further information regarding her family has been secured.

"Fosbaugh," the home of Heijen and Gepke, and the birthplace of all their children, is described as being a large, rambling stone house. At the rear was a steep incline, from the top of which they often watched young wild foxes playing in and about a ditch.

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These ditches, about five feet wide and frequently as deep, were used as dividing lines between farms in this part of Germany and, during the rainy season, served as drainage ditches.

Eight children were born to Heijen and Gepke Wessels; one son, Wessel, dying in Germany when about fifteen years old. The other children were:

JOHN HEIJEN, eldest, born April 15, 1833.

TAAKKE, born January 4, 1835.

HEERE HEIJEN, born August 1, 1839, died September 23, 1857.

JANTEJE (Jane), born January 23, 1842.

JOHANNAH (Janna), born July 19, 1844.

GEORGE H., born March 5, 1847.

GRETCHEN, born March 5, 1847.

Heijen and a brother were farmers and breeders of fine horses, frequently owning twenty stallions at one time. As was customary among those in their circumstances, he and Gepke re-

* See Addenda, p. 27.

tained a private tutor for their children. However, by the time of the father's death in 1852, when the twins were but five years old, the family income had dwindled materially, and Gepke placed her younger children in the public school.

John was employed on the home farm until his compulsory enlistment in the German army. However, his number was not called, and he was given a year's time in which to report again. In the meantime, he and his younger brother Heere (Harry) came to America in 1855 with Gepke's cousin, Jacob G. Schmidt* (later spelled Schmit) and his wife and family, and located at Forreston, Illinois.

After a time Harry became ill of consumption and was cared for in the home of his relatives, the Jacob Schmits, where he died September 23, 1857. He is buried in the city cemetery at Forreston, Illinois.

Taalke came to America in 1857, two years later than her brothers, with the Balster Ellis family. The journey, which took seven weeks, was made in a sailing vessel from Hamburg to New York, thence to Chicago by train, and by stage to Freeport. At Freeport they all stayed with relatives, Mrs. Ulbt Albertus and children, Peter and Annie, until the Ellises could locate a farm. Taalke did housework for a neighbor for three years, when she and Peter were married and began keeping house on his farm nearby.

Early in November, 1860, Gepke and her four youngest children sailed from Hamburg by steamer, and arrived in New York two weeks later. The voyage was a pleasant one, with but one storm during the two weeks. To my grandmother, Janna, then sixteen, was entrusted the care of the remnant of the family fortune, a chest approximately two feet long containing \$6,000.00 in gold pieces and a part of the family silver. In later years she often commented upon the fact that its weight rather than its value seemed to have been her chief concern throughout the journey.

They arrived in Freeport late in November, 1860, just one week before the first grandchild, little Susan Albertus, was born. Here Gepke and her children spent three months with Taalke, her husband and baby, before moving onto the farm she had purchased upon her arrival.

This one hundred and sixty acres in Silver Creek Township, Stephenson County, was located one mile west of Taalke and Peter's farm and seven miles southeast of Freeport. It was deeded to Gepke Wessels December 30, 1860, by Cyrus A. Sheets, consideration \$3360.00 or \$21.00 per acre. (Description, E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 14 and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 23, Twp. 26, N of R 8.)

But her vision of an estate in America, similar to the old home in Germany, failed to materialize. Instead, there were the typical prairie houses and undeveloped farms, and unaccustomed hard work. John married the girl from back home and Jane and Janna chose husbands from among the sturdy young German lads from native Ostfriesland who were also seeking their fortunes in the new world. Everything in America was so different!

Then came an enterprising Freeport real estate dealer, with glowing accounts of wonderful crops raised on the rich prairie land to be obtained in Marshall County, Iowa, at very low cost. Gepke sold her farm* and sent John west to Marshall County to locate a farm for her. He chose one hundred and sixty acres in Timbercreek Township, Marshall County. The price of \$9.00 per acre was considerably higher than that of surrounding land because of the house on it.

Early in 1868 she and her two youngest children, George and Gretchen, came to the new home. As some of her grandchildren clearly remember it, the house she came to was a tiny one-room-with-loft structure so typical of pioneer Iowa prairies. The deed she received from D. W. Maytag and wife is dated March 31, 1868, and covered the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 32-83-18, W of 5th P. M.

The first year was one of loneliness and discouragement, for she was among the very first settlers from either Stephenson or Ogle Counties where her friends were located. The following spring, or in January 1869, Janna and her family came from Stephenson County to make their home in the same community, and other acquaintances followed. Jane and her family had located in Hardin County, Iowa, and a short time later, Gretchen married and settled near her mother's home. Gepke lived on this farm with her son George until her death, December 9, 1872, at the age of seventy. She had lived to see her children happy and prospering, respected and loved in their various communities and was content.

In the well kept little Methodist cemetery at Laurel, Iowa, her lot adjoins that of Gretchen and her husband, with other descendants also buried near. I frequently visit the spot, as I try to voice the greeting of each and every grandchild, "Hands across the years, brave little grandmother. Hail and farewell." July, 1940.

A. W. L.

For convenience the family is divided into six units, the descendants of each of Heijen and Gepke's married children forming one unit. Thus John's family comprises the first, Taalke's the second, etc. To find the name of any descendant, husband or wife, consult the index.

- I. JOHN HEIJEN WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, Apr. 15, 1833, died Stephenson Co., Ill., Feby. 4, 1923, married at Freeport, Ill., June 17, 1863, Janna Iblings, daughter of John and Geeske Iblings, born Holthusen, amt Weener, Ostfriesland, Oct. 2, 1838, died Stephenson Co., Ill., Mar. 8, 1912. Both are buried in the Silver Creek Reformed Church Cemetery near German Valley, Ill.

Soon after he arrived at Forreston, Illinois, in 1855, John found work with a farmer at \$9.00 per month, but made his home when temporarily unemployed elsewhere, with the Ulbt Albertus family. A few years later he bought an eighty acre tract of prairie land in Silver Creek Township, Stephenson County, for \$15.00 per acre, breaking the sod with a yoke of oxen.

In 1863 he built a house on this place, and then he and Janna were married. The original eighty, later increased to 240 acres, became the home they shared during their long and useful life together, and here five of their six children grew to maturity.

When Janna was fourteen, her mother died in Holthusen, and sometime later her father, with his three daughters and son, emigrated to America. After a long and dangerous voyage of thirteen weeks in a sail boat, they reached New York and came to Freeport. Following her older sister's marriage, Janna kept house for her father until she and John were married.

1. HEYE WESSELS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Apr. 3, 1864, married Baileyville, Stephenson Co., Ill., Mar. 6, 1888, Gertis Frudag, daughter of Aarjen and Etta DeVeries Frudag, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Dec. 28, 1863, died Freeport, Ill., Apr. 21, 1940.—FREEPORT AND RIDOTT, ILLINOIS.

1. John H. Wessels, born Ogle Co., Ill., Apr. 5, 1889, married Stephenson Co., Ill., 1916, Minnie Bardell, daughter of Henry and Lena Dahlmeier Bardell, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Apr. 19, 1891.—RIDOTT, ILLINOIS.

1. Irene Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Mar. 23, 1922.

2. Etta Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., June 1, 1891. 1267 W. PLEASANT, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

3. Aarjen Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Feb. 26, 1894, married Florence Station, Ill., Dec. 15, 1927, Hilda Wirtjes, daughter of George and Hilke Fry Wirtjes, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Sept. 27, 1896.—**DAKOTA, ILLINOIS.**
4. Jennie Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Dec. 20, 1896.—1267 W. PLEASANT, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
5. Heye Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., July 10, 1899, died Freeport, Ill., May 29, 1935.
6. Harry H. Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Jan. 10, 1903, married near Freeport, Sept. 24, 1927, Evodia Viola Von Loh, daughter of George and Flora Kaiser Von Loh, born Stephenson Co., June 7, 1907.—**R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.**
 1. Irma Jean Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., July 8, 1929.
 2. Evodia Jane Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Nov. 29, 1933.
7. Angeline Wessels, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Mar. 10, 1905, married Freeport, July 6, 1929, LeRoy Schoonhoven, son of Reemt and Geeske Schoonhoven, born Baileyville, Ill.—2516 W. CRESCENT ST., RACINE, WISC.
 1. Dale Roger Schoonhoven, born Racine, Wisc., Mar. 1930.
 2. Calvin Schoonhoven, born Racine, Wisc., Nov. 22, 1931.
2. KATE WESSELS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Sept. 5, 1866.—1245 S. CARROLL AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
3. HENRY WESSELS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Jan. 27, 1869—1245 S. CARROLL AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
4. GEPKE WESSELS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., May 1, 1871, died Stephenson Co., Ill., Feb. 18, 1897, married Freeport, Mar. 25, 1895, Mike Fry, son of Herman and Trientje Teyen Fry, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Aug. 31, 1867.—COLFAX, WASHINGTON.
 1. Trientje Fry, born Stephenson Co., Ill., May 24, 1896, married Colfax, Wash., July 10, 1926, Ira Roswell Flowers, son of John and Flora I. Burge, Flowers, born Colton, Wash., Sept. 26, 1885.—COLFAX, WASHINGTON.
 1. Virgil Flowers, born Colfax, Wash., May 29, 1927.
5. SON, not named, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Dec. 20, 1873, died Apr. 11, 1874.

6. CLARA WESSELS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., May 22, 1877, married Stephenson Co., Ill., Mar. 1, 1899, Dick G. Manus, son of George and Rena Dirksen Manus, born Stephenson Co., Ill., June 22, 1876.—R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

1. Hannah Manus, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Feb. 23, 1900, married Pearl City, Ill., Aug. 3, 1921, Earl Block, son of Herman and Barbara Endress Block, born Pearl City, Ill., Sept. 2, 1898.—PEARL CITY, ILLINOIS.

1. Myron Block, born Pearl City, Ill., June 25, 1922.

2. Robert Block, born Pearl City, Ill., Aug. 18, 1924.

3. Lorraine Block, born Pearl City, Ill., May 2, 1928.

4. Wesley Roger Block, born Pearl City, Ill., Aug. 28, 1929.

2. Agnes Manus, born Kossuth Co., Ia., Jan. 14, 1902, married Pearl City, Ill., Mar. 9, 1926, Elmer Schuman, son of Adolph and Minnie Brinkmeier Schuman, born Pearl City, Ill., Dec. 5, 1900.—PEARL CITY, ILLINOIS.

1. Shirley Mae Schuman, born Pearl City, Ill., Jan. 28, 1927.

3. George Manus, born Medalia, Minn., Dec. 18, 1904.—ELKADER, IOWA.

4. Jennie Manus, born Pearl City, Ill., Apr. 6, 1912.—R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

5. Alvin Manus, born Pearl City, Ill., Sept. 23, 1913.—R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

II. TAALKE WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, Jan. 4, 1835, died Freeport, Ill., Jan. 2, 1926, married at Freeport, Ill., April, 1860, Peter Albertus, son of Ulbt and Susan Albertus, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Sept. 15, 1824, died Freeport, Ill., July 1, 1890. Both are buried in the Scott Cemetery, south of Freeport, Ill.

Peter and Taalke were relatives by marriage, and attended the same school in Neermoor. With his mother and two sisters, Annie and Kate and her husband, Peter, came to America about 1849. His brother, John Albertus, captain of the vessel, made nine trips bringing immigrants across the Atlantic before deciding to remain here also.

Eight years later than Peter's arrival, Taalke came to America, where she was, as a matter of course, welcomed into her relatives' home. Later, when she and Peter were married, they began keeping house on his farm about eight miles

southeast of Freeport, in Silver Creek Township, where a remnant of the old foundation is still visible.

Through the years, as their family grew, they purchased other farms, but the home in which they spent their remaining years is located about two miles south of Freeport.

1. SUSAN ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill., Dec. 5, 1860, married near Seward, Ill., July 8, 1892, Charles Zaedow, son of Louis and Louise Snethrow Zaedow, born Mecklenburg, Germany, May 26, 1866, died German Valley, Ill., Mar. 5, 1936.—SEWARD, ILLINOIS.
1. Lou Edna Lizzie Zaedow, born Sanborn, Ia., May 29, 1893, married Freeport, Ill., Feb. 5, 1920, Harm Bruning, son of Herman and Frances Meyers Bruning, born Brookville, Ill., Apr. 19, 1891.—PECATONICA, ILLINOIS.
 1. Dorothy Louetta Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Apr. 13, 1921, died Sept. 8, 1923.
 2. LeRoy Herman Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., May 23, 1922.
 3. Lucile Phyllis Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Oct. 9, 1925.
 4. Hazel May Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Aug. 18, 1927.
 5. Leslie Carl Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Nov. 22, 1928.
 6. Wilbur Albert Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Jan. 26, 1930.
 7. Herman Hirman Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill., Dec. 20, 1932.
2. Abbie Viola Zaedow, born Sanborn, Ia., June 15, 1897, married Woodstock, Ill., Oct. 27, 1927, George W. Janssen, son of John and Annie Jenssen Janssen, born Apen, Aldenburg, Germany, May 11, 1895.—PECATONICA, ILLINOIS.
 1. Millard George Janssen, born German Valley, Ill., Jan. 20, 1929.
 2. Shirley Suzanne Janssen, born German Valley, Ill., Sept. 8, 1932.
2. HYE ALBERTUS, born Silver Creek, Stephenson Co., Ill., Jan. 22, 1863, died Ridott, Ill., Apr. 28, 1924, married Stephens, Ill., Mar. 27, 1895, Fanny Brookman, daughter of John and Jennie Jansen Crull Brookman, born Forrester, Ill., Apr. 21, 1873, died Ridott, Ill., July 20, 1912. Both buried German Reformed Church Cemetery, Ridott.

1. Peter Harry Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., Feb. 9, 1896, married Freeport, Nov. 10, 1926, Grace Lameyer, daughter of George B. and Emma Denekas Lameyer, born near Baileyville, Ill., Apr. 21, 1908.—1769 S. HIGHLAND, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
 2. John George Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., June 22, 1897, married Harvard, Ill., June 25, 1930, Ethel McComb, daughter of Samuel and Emma Butts McComb, born Harvard, Ill., June 1, 1911.—PECATONICA, ILLINOIS.
 1. Shirley Joanne Albertus, born Marengo, Ill., Oct. 11, 1933.
 2. June Ethel Albertus, born Marengo, Ill., June 16, 1935.
 3. Frank Henry Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., July 15, 1900, married Freeport, Jan. 14, 1931, Frances Sartorius, daughter of Fred and May Yordy Sartorius, born Freeport, Ill., Aug. 6, 1904.—R. R. No. 2, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
 1. Marilyn May Albertus, born Freeport, Ill., July 16, 1936.
 2. Sharon Kay Albertus, born Freeport, Ill., July 7, 1939.
 3. Lynn Ray Albertus, born Freeport, Ill., July 7, 1939, died July 10, 1939.
 4. Jennie Tilley Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., Dec. 27, 1902, married Pecatonica, Ill., Nov. 2, 1926, Albert John Bruning, son of Herman and Frances Meyers Bruning, born Brookville, Ill., July 8, 1903.—PECATONICA, ILLINOIS.
 1. Allene Frances Bruning born Pecatonica, Ill., Jan. 29, 1929.
 2. John Ronald Bruning, born Pecatonica, Ill. Nov. 16, 1930.
 5. Tilley Florence Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., Mar. 21, 1905, married Freeport, Ill., Feb. 25, 1932, Charles Marshall Faulkner, son of Calvin and Elizabeth Markham Faulkner, born Winnebago, Ill., Feb. 25, 1906.—WINNEBAGO, ILLINOIS.
 6. Fannie H. Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., Dec. 1, 1908, died Mar. 16, 1909. Buried Ridott, Ill.
 7. Harry Floyd Albertus, born Ridott, Ill., Sept. 17, 1910.—1769 S. HIGHLAND AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
3. ABBIE ALBERTUS, born Ridott, Ill., May 3, 1864, died Pecatonica, Ill., Jan. 2, 1897, married Dec. 10, 1890, William Spicer, son of George and Lucy Hawkins Spicer, born

Pecatonica, Ill., Aug. 1, 1865.—R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

1. Lucy Spicer, born Pecatonica, Oct. 4, 1892, died Sept. 10, 1895.
4. ELLA ALBERTUS, born Ridott, Ill., Jan. 4, 1867, died Sibley, Ia., Feb. 10, 1938, married Stephenson Co., Mar. 27, 1896, John Henry Schutte, son of Hinrich and Johanna Ruschen Schutte, born Ridott, Ill., Apr. 27, 1871.—SIBLEY, IOWA.
 1. Jennie Lucy Schutte, born Seward, Ill., Jan. 3, 1897.—SIBLEY, IOWA.
 2. Clarence Henry Schutte, born Seward, Ill., Mar. 21, 1900, died Sibley, Ia., July 4, 1938, married Jan. 22, 1925, Charlotte Saunders, daughter of Charles and Minnie Hundley Saunders.—SIBLEY, IOWA.
 1. Marjorie Rae Schutte, born Sibley, Ia., Jan. 15, 1929.
 3. Lois Anna Schutte born Sibley, Ia. July 10, 1903, died Dec. 4, 1903.
 4. John Carl Schutte, born Sibley, Ia., July 10, 1903, died Feb. 11, 1907.
5. LENA ALBERTUS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Sept. 22, 1869, married Stephenson Co., Feb. 13, 1894, Fred Peters, son of John and Mary Snell Peters, born Mecklenburg, Germany, May 3, 1870.—1206 S. OAK AVE., FREEPORT, ILL.
 1. Lynn Peters, born Sanborn, Ia., Mar. 14, 1896, entered service in World War May 15, 1918, died in Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., Oct. 7, 1918. Won promotion of Corporal.
 2. Earl Peters, born Sanborn, Ia., Jan. 19, 1898, married Freeport, Jan. 10, 1928, Frances Reeder, daughter of John M. and Lillian Dains Reeder, born Grand Junction, Mich., July 6, 1906.—901 S. ROGER AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
 3. Mildred Peters, born Freeport, Ill., Feb. 16, 1900, married Rockford, Ill., July 12, 1924, Albert Joseph Zimmerman, son of Peter and Katherine Huber Zimmerman, born Freeport, Ill., Sept. 29, 1887.—837 W. COTTONWOOD ST., FREEPORT, ILL.
 1. Lois Berdine Zimmerman, born Freeport, Ill., Sept. 17, 1925.
 4. Ruth Peters, born Freeport, Ill., Feb. 28, 1907, married Freeport, June 25, 1926, LeRoy Francis LeVeque, son of George and Rose LeVeque, born Freeport, Ill., Apr. 9, 1897, died Freeport, Ill., 1938.
 1. Norma LeVeque, born Freeport, Ill., July 19, 1927.

2. Dorothy LeVeque, born Freeport, Ill., Mar. 6, 1930.
3. Donald LeVeque, born Freeport, Ill., Sept. 5, 1931.
Ruth married 2nd, Freeport, Ill., Mar. 24, 1939, Arden Payne, son of Albert and Dolly Kreth Payne, born Carbondale, Ill., Nov. 25, 1899.—479 SOUTH FLOAT AVE., FREEPORT, ILL.
5. Fredrick Peters, born Freeport, Ill., May 26, 1911, married Freeport, Ill., July 20, 1933, Agnes Nehus, daughter of William and Lillian Lamm Nehus, born Freeport, Ill., Sept. 20, 1911.—R. R. No. 4, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
 1. Nancy Ann Peters, born Freeport, Ill., July 31, 1935.
 2. James Robert Peters, born Freeport, Ill., July 3, 1938.
6. MATILDA ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill., May 10, 1876, married Enterprise, Oregon, July 18, 1906, John Wesley Bickford, son of Henry and Lydia Jane Pelley Bickford, both of whom are buried at Knoxville, Ia. John Bickford born Columbia, Ia., Apr. 12, 1870.—204 EAST 27TH ST., VANCOUVER, WASH.
 1. Opal May Albertus Bickford, born Enterprise, Ore., May 23, 1907, married Vancouver, Wash., Oct. 2, 1926, Ronald Earl Pugh, son of Roger and Inez Andruss Pugh, born Mapes, N. Dak., June 13, 1906.—BATTLE GROUND, WASHINGTON.
 1. Robert Earl Pugh, born Vancouver, Wash., July 18, 1927.
 2. Vivian Arlena Winnifred Bickford, born Enterprise, Ore., Mar. 20, 1909, died Vancouver, Wash., May 1931.
 3. Eloine Daphne Bickford, born Elgin, Ore., Oct. 21, 1917, married Vancouver, Wash., Aug. 1938.—
—————RICHMOND, CALIF.
7. JENNIE ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill.—R. R. No. 1, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
8. PETER ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill.—1308 S. CHICAGO AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
9. HENRY ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill.—1308 S. CHICAGO AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.
10. ANNA ALBERTUS, born Freeport, Ill., Apr. 25, 1882.—1308 S. CHICAGO AVE., FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

There were also four children of Taalke and Peter's who died in infancy.

III. JANE WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, Jan. 25, 1842, died Belmond, Ia., Apr. 24, 1905, married Freeport, Ill., June 25, 1862, Rank Harberts, son of John and Helen Bode Harberts, born O'Poosen, Ostfriesland, Oct. 18, 1835, died Belmond, Ia., Mar. 22, 1908. They are buried in the Belmond, Ia., cemetery.

Rank Harberts, with his parents, brothers and sisters, left O'Poosen (spelled as pronounced) about 1859, and after a six weeks' voyage in a sail boat, reached New York. The family settled in the vicinity of Ridott, Stephenson County, Illinois, where some of the children later established homes.

Rank and Jane lived on a farm in this community for some time, then went to Forreston, Ogle County, Illinois, and in October, 1868, removed to Ackley, Hardin County, Iowa. The trip from Forreston to Ackley, a distance of 220 miles over present highways, required seven days in their covered wagon drawn by a team of white horses. They crossed the Mississippi River by ferry at Dubuque; the first bridge across the river at that point not being completed until later in the year.

In the spring of 1883, the family moved to a farm east of Belmond, Wright County, Ia. They built a new house on a farm five miles northeast of Belmond in 1892, and later moved into Belmond, where the parents spent their remaining years.

1. HELEN HARBERTS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., May 3, 1863
BELMOND, IOWA.

2. ABBIE HARBERTS, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Aug. 5, 1865, died Belmond, Ia., May 22, 1938, married Belmond, Ia., Nov. 7, 1888, Adolph Meinders, born in Germany, Jan. 13, 1863, died Belmond Dec. 2, 1925. Both are buried at Belmond.

1. Rose Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., Mar. 10, 1893, married Belmond, Ia., Apr. 31, 1913, Theo. Bonte, son of John and Angeline Blau Bonte, born Alexander, Ia., Sept. 12, 1886.—BELMOND, IOWA.

1. Claire Bonte, born Alexander, Ia., Feb. 10, 1915, married Belmond Apr. 20, 1938, Doris Russell, daughter of Dr. Albert W. and Zella Young Russell, born Belmond, Mar. 20, 1915.—BELMOND, IOWA.

1. Zella Rae Bonte, born Belmond, Ia., Nov. 18, 1938, died Belmond, May 19, 1940.

← 2. Ray Bonte, born Alexander, Ia., Mar. 27, 1918, died Belmond, Sept. 10, 1937.

← 3. Merle Bonte, born Belmond, Ia., May 30, 1923.

← 4. Abbie Doris Bonte, born Belmond, Ia., June 25, 1926.

2. Lillian Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., July 28, 1895, married Belmond, Feb. 28, 1917, Harm Braner, son of Henry and Helen Pastour Braner, born Belmond, Ia., Dec. 14, 1895.—BELMOND, IOWA.
 1. Walter Braner, born Belmond, Ia., Nov. 28, 1917.
 2. June Braner, born Belmond, Ia., June 14, 1919.
 3. Donald Braner, born Belmond, Ia., March 26, 1922.
3. Adolph Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., June 14, 1899, married Belmond, Dec. 29, 1921, Martha Pals, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Cooper Pals, born Belmond, Ia., May 1, 1901.—BELMOND, IOWA.
 1. Dean Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., Nov. 3, 1935.
4. Rank Meinders, born Wright Co., Ia., May 23, 1900, married Titonka, Ia., July 26, 1923, Lottie Beenken, daughter of Henry and Caroline Long Beenken, born Kossuth Co., Ia., Aug. 8, 1903.—CLARION, IOWA.
 1. Darrel Dwain Meinders, born Wright Co., Ia., Apr. 2, 1924.
 2. Carolyn Abbie Meinders, born Wright Co., Ia., Mar. 19, 1926.
 3. Adolph Rank Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., Mar. 13, 1929.
 4. Walter Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., Feb. 14, 1931.
5. Ruth Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., Oct. 12, 1902, married Belmond, June 25, 1923, Lambert Menke, son of Harm and Sena Wennies Menke, born Belmond, Ia., Oct. 27, 1896.—MASON CITY, IOWA.
 1. Adeline Menke, born Belmond, Ia., Dec. 11, 1924.
 2. Lambert Menke, Jr., born Mason City, Ia., July 4, 1926.
 3. Avis Menke, born Mason City, Ia., Dec. 10, 1927.
 4. Phyllis Ruth Menke, born Mason City, Ia., Feb. 26, 1932.
6. Louis Meinders, born Belmond, Ia., June 8, 1905, married George, Ia., Nov. 28, 1934, Katheryn Koenen, daughter of Bernard and Helen Pals Koenen, born Me-servy, Ia., Nov. 27, 1904.—THORNTON, IOWA.
 1. Janice Lou Meinders, born Thornton, Ia., Dec. 13, 1939.
3. JENNIE HARBERTS, born Ogle Co., Ill., Jan. 18, 1868, died Klemme, Ia., Dec. 17, 1936, married Belmond, Ia., Dec. 22, 1892, Eelko Buss, son of Folkert and Gail Miller Buss, born Emden, Ostfriesland, Germany, Sept. 24, 1858, died Klemme, Ia., Dec. 17, 1936. Both are buried at Klemme.

1. Rank Buss, born Hancock Co., Ia., Sept. 22, 1893, married Klemme, Feb. 2, 1917, Sarah Rhodes, daughter of Frank and Mary Fitzpatrick Rhodes, born Hancock, Ia., Dec. 14, 1899.—HAMPTON, IOWA.
 1. Gerald Robert Buss, born Dows, Ia., Mar. 31, 1918.
 2. Naida Lavonne Buss, born Goodell, Ia., June 7, 1920.
2. Gail Buss, born Hancock Co., Ia., Apr. 19, 1895, married Klemme, Ia., Mar. 12, 1931, Edward Becker, son of William and Barbara Haas Becker, born Klemme, Ia., Jan. 5, 1887.—KLEMME, IOWA.
 1. Edward Eelko Becker, born Dec. 21, 1932, died Jan. 4, 1933, Klemme, Ia.
3. and 4. Twin sons, born Apr. 17, 1897, named Francis and Folkert. One died at age of three months, the other, three weeks.
5. Harry Buss, born Klemme, Ia., Sept. 8, 1898, married Klemme, Dec. 21, 1922, Lurley Wilson, daughter of George and Florence Mae Nickerson Wilson, born Maccon Co., Ill., June 12, 1900.—HUDSON, IOWA.
 1. Merlin Dean Buss, born Goodell, Ia., Feb. 25, 1924, died Dec. 11, 1933.
 2. Harlan Harry Buss, born Goodell, Ia., Nov. 6, 1925.
 3. Harriett Virginia Buss, born Klemme, Ia., May 14, 1933.
 4. Beverly Anne Buss, born Letts, Ia., Nov. 19, 1934.
6. Hazel Buss, born Hancock Co., Ia., Sept. 8, 1898, married Klemme, Ia., Aug. 28, 1920, Sylvan Johnson, son of William and Elizabeth Terry Johnson, born Nov. 9, 1898.—FOREST CITY, IOWA.
 1. Ivan LuVerne Johnson, born Klemme, Ia., Aug. 28, 1921.
 2. Eugene Eelko Johnson, born Klemme, Ia., Feb. 9, 1926.
 3. Norva Jennie Johnson, born Klemme, Ia., Feb. 17, 1928.
7. Edgar Buss, born Hancock Co., Ia., Nov. 17, 1902, married Klemme, Ia., Aug. 11, 1936, Winnie Albers, daughter of George and Winnie Winches Albers, born Klemme, Ia., Feb. 4, 1907.—R. R., KLEMME, IOWA.
8. Alvina Buss, born Hancock Co., Ia., July 25, 1907, married Klemme, Apr. 12, 1933, Dwight Helps, son of Henry and Lena Warren Helps, born Clarion, Ia., Oct. 6, 1907.—R. R., KLEMME, IOWA.
 1. Stanley Helps, born Goodell, Ia., Oct. 9, 1933.
 2. Eunice Jane Helps, born Klemme, Ia., Mar. 21, 1936.

3. Raymond Henry Helps, born Klemme, Ia., Nov. 10, 1938.
4. HIO HARBERTS, born Ackley, Ia., May 2, 1870, died Klemme, Ia., May 12, 1936, married Goodell, Ia., Mar. 20, 1897, Ella Rust, daughter of Heiko and Anna De-Veries Rust, born Ackley, Ia., June 22, 1880, died Goodell, Oct. 28, 1931. Both are buried at Goodell, Ia.
 1. Harvey Harberts, born Goodell, Ia., Aug. 10, 1900, married Apr. 1921, Clara Peterson, daughter of Lars Peter and Karna Larson Peterson, born Dows, Ia., Sept. 26, 1898.—KLEMME, IOWA.
 2. Beulah Harberts, born Goodell, Ia., Jan. 17, 1903, married Goodell, Aug. 9, 1923, Joseph Houghton, son of Joseph and Rose Goodrich Houghton, born Goodell, Ia.—609 OXFORD, APT. 1, HOUSTON, TEXAS.
 1. Joseph Houghton, born Kanawha, Ia., Aug. 1, 1924.
 2. Daphne Joyce Houghton, born Houston, Tex., Oct. 27, 1935.
 3. Esther Harberts, born Goodell, Ia., Apr. 23, 1907, married Garner, Ia., June 2, 1931, Elmer Harry Anderson, born Klemme, Ia., Apr. 12, 1887, son of Andrew and Mary Andersen Anderson.—GOODSELL, IOWA.
 1. Ruby Ella Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Aug. 13, 1931.
 2. Harlan Elmer Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Nov. 18, 1934.
 3. Shirley Elaine Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Aug. 2, 1935, died Aug. 2, 1935.
 4. Ilamae Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Aug. 24, 1936.
 5. Harry Laverne Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Feb. 4, 1938.
 6. Leila Jane Anderson, born Goodell, Ia., Jan. 5, 1939.
5. JOHN HARBERTS, born Ackley, Ia., Dec. 22, 1873.—BELMOND, IOWA.
6. GEORGE HARBERTS, born Ackley, Ia., Nov. 21, 1876, married Belmond, Dec. 2, 1903, Alice Magor, daughter of William and Belle Whitehead Magor, born Hampton, Ia., Aug. 30, 1886.—BELMOND, IOWA.
 1. Walter Lee Harberts, born Belmond, Ia., Aug. 9, 1905, died Belmond, Ia., Mar. 11, 1910.
 2. Fern Harberts, born Belmond, Ia., Jan. 18, 1907, married Belmond, Dec. 11, 1929, Menno Smit, son of John and Tina Katuin Smith, born Weener, Germany, Aug. 5, 1907. Menno's father born Wymer, Germany, and his mother in Friescheloo, Holland.—BELMOND, IOWA.

1. Wanda Mae Smit, born Belmond, Ia., Dec. 23, 1936.
 3. Evelyn Harberts, born Belmond, Ia., Apr. 20, 1912.
 4. Twin son, born Belmond, Ia., Apr. 20, 1912, died Apr. 20, 1912.
 7. HERBERT HARBERTS, born Ackley, Ia., July 21, 1879, died Belmond, Ia., Oct. 29, 1939.
 8. HARRY HARBERTS, born Ackley, Ia., Oct. 20, 1881, married Garner, Ia., July 24, 1909, Nellie Busick, daughter of William and Eliza Graves Busick, born Belmond, Ia., Aug. 2, 1886.—320 E. 2ND ST., CANTON, S. DAK.
 1. LeRoy Harberts, born Belmond, Ia., Jan. 13, 1916, married Logan, Ia., July 27, 1939, Charlotte Isakson, daughter of Ingram and Minnie Lanfell Isakson, born Canton, S. Dak., June 4, 1919.—CANTON, S. DAK.
 2. Verneda Harberts, born Belmond, Ia., Aug. 29, 1917, married Sioux Falls, S. Dak., June 13, 1937, Harold Sherman, son of Ben and Alma Messner Sherman, born Worthing, S. Dak., May 26, 1911.—616 WEST 24TH ST., SIOUX FALLS, S. DAK.
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IV. JOHANNAH (JANNA) WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, July 19, 1844, died Timbercreek Twp., Marshall Co., Aug. 9, 1922, married Freeport, Ill., Dec. 25, 1863, Everett Bernhardt Bohen, son of Harmon and Elizabeth Van Vawden Bohen, born Leer, Ostfriesland, May 12, 1840, died Timbercreek Twp., Marshall Co., Ia., Apr. 1, 1920. Both are buried Riverside Cemetery, Marshalltown, Ia.

Following the death of his mother, Everett came to America in 1859, with a married sister, Mary Barton, her husband and two children. A yellow fever epidemic developed on shipboard, but from the first alarm Everett stayed in another part of the vessel, usually among the sails, where sleeping quarters were also arranged. His brother-in-law contracted the fever and died at sea, probably near the end of the nine weeks journey, for he was buried at Ellis Island.

Everett came to the vicinity of Freeport, where he worked as a shoe maker, the trade he had learned in Germany. Other brothers and sisters came to America later. He and a brother owned a boot and shoe shop at Florence Station, Stephenson County, Ill., at the time he and Janna and their three eldest children came to Marshall County, Iowa, in January, 1869.

Arriving in Marshall County, they rented a farm from Kunkle, a half mile south of Grandmother Wessels' farm. Next they moved to the Holtgraver place across from the Old

Sea Captain farm in the same neighborhood where the family continued to attend services conducted in German in a nearby school house. A baptismal certificate, in German, of one of the children is dated October, 1877, signed by Rev. H. F. Harriman of State Center. The Bosch family also attended this church.

In 1883 they bought their permanent home, a farm in Timbercreek Township about three miles north of Haverhill, and now owned by their son Everett.

1. ELIZABETH KATHERINE BOHEN, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Dec. 10, 1864, died Marshalltown, Ia., July 19, 1916, married Marshalltown, Apr. 10, 1886, Enoch Benjamin Willim, son of John and Mary Ann Arner Willim, born Mercer County, Pa., Jan. 21, 1858, died Marshalltown, Ia., Dec. 21, 1925. Both are buried at Riverside, Marshalltown.
 1. Adalyn Mary Willim, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 5, 1887, married Marshalltown, Aug. 16, 1916, William Louis Laymiller, son of Ernest Henry and Hannah Taylor Laymiller, born Wyoming, Ill., June 27, 1883.—1203 WEST ST., GRINNELL, IOWA.
 2. Elizabeth Agnes Willim, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 17, 1892, married Marshalltown, Sept. 29, 1917, Roy C. Brandt, son of Fred Christopher and Emma Louise Bollhoefer Brandt, born Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 12, 1896.—R. R. BAXTER, IOWA.
 1. James Roy Brandt, adopted son, born June 4, 1924.
 3. John Calvin Willim, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 5, 1893, died Feb. 13, 1893, Marshall County. Buried Riverside, Marshalltown.
 4. Jessie Lois Willim, born Marshall Co., Ia., Oct. 5, 1894, married Marshalltown, June 5, 1917, Orval J. Landis, son of Charles Adelbert and Eunice Todd Landis, born Marshalltown, Ia., Apr. 17, 1894.—703 WEST MAIN ST., MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.
 1. Marilyn Landis, born Marshalltown, Ia., Mar. 31, 1927.
 5. Eunice Joan Willim, born Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 9, 1911, married Marshalltown, Sept. 5, 1931, Truman Joseph Deedrick, son of John Christian and Mary Barbara Lidka Deedrick, born Malcom, Ia., Mar. 9, 1911.—107 S. 3RD ST., MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.
 1. Donna Joan Deedrick, adopted daughter, born June 19, 1939.
2. HATTIE LENA BOHEN, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Sept. 9, 1886, died Marshalltown, Ia., Apr. 13, 1935, buried Riverside, Marshalltown, married Marshall Co., Mar. 6, 1890,

John Richard Paul, son of David and Sarah Elizabeth Runkle Paul, born Ogle Co., Ill., Feb. 11, 1864.—4232 STANDISH AVE., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.; HUDSON, IA.

1. Jennie Elizabeth Paul, born Laurel, Ia., Apr. 19, 1893, married Marshalltown, May 8, 1917, Arthur Brown Morrison, son of George Albert and Henrietta Farley Morrison, born Seymour, Wayne Co., Ia., July 21, 1886.—4232 STANDISH AVE., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

1. Margaret Rose Morrison, adopted daughter, born July 20, 1922.

2. Vera Hazel Paul, born Laurel, Ia., Sept. 9, 1895, died Marshalltown, Ia., Nov. 16, 1926, buried Riverside, Marshalltown, married Marshalltown, Sept. 26, 1916, Charles M. Lampman, son of Sylvester Orin and Mary Eleanor Waters Lampman, born July 5, 1893.—MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

3. Verna Mabel Paul, born Laurel, Ia., Sept. 9, 1895, married Marshalltown, Sept. 5, 1917, Gerald Hogshead, son of Henry E. and Anna Wheelles Hogshead, born Nashville, Ill., June 17, 1892.—HUDSON, IOWA.

1. Stanley Hogshead, born Hudson, Ia., Sept. 9, 1919.

2. Mabel Hogshead, born Hudson, Ia., Sept. 19, 1923.

3. Howard Paul Hogshead, born Hudson, Ia., Oct. 4, 1932.

3. EVELYN BOHEN, born Stephenson Co., Ill., Nov. 2, 1868.—R. R. No. 4, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

4. JOHANNAH (JANE) BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 18, 1872, died Marshalltown, Ia., Feb. 26, 1936, buried Riverside, Marshalltown, married Marshall Co., Oct. 29, 1897, Edgar A. Ford, son of Abijah and Anna Ford, born Mason Co., Ill., Nov. 13, 1867.—103 S. 9TH ST., MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

5. MARY ELIZABETH BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., May 27, 1874, died Rochester, Minn., July 3, 1916. Buried Riverside, Marshalltown, Ia.

6. MARGARET BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 21, 1877, married Oct. 29, 1908, Walter Swen Munter, son of Charles J. and Gustava Seberg Munter, born Smolend, Sweden, Sept. 13, 1878.—R. R. No. 4, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

7. IDA VICTORIA BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 16, 1880, died Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 13, 1934. Buried Riverside, Marshalltown, Ia.

8. EVERETT WILLIAM BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., Aug. 10, 1883, married Marshalltown, Nov. 8, 1911, Maude

Ertel, daughter of James and Lida Ulrich Ertel, born Tama Co., Ia., Jan. 29, 1889.—R. R. No. 4, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

1. Robert William Bohen, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 7, 1914.—R. R. No. 4, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

2. Catherine May Bohen, born Marshall Co., Ia., Mar. 6, 1916, married Oct. 3, 1937, Harold Bulanek, son of James and Helen Muscile Bulanek, born Marshalltown, Ia., July 7, 1915.—MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

1. Elizabeth Joan Bulanek, born Marshalltown, Ia., Nov. 23, 1938.

3. Jane Elizabeth Bohen, born Marshall Co., Ia., Mar. 20, 1918.—MERCY HOSPITAL, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

4. Mary Helen Bohen, born Marshall Co., Ia., Sept. 6, 1920.

9. WALTER BERNHARDT BOHEN, born Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 25, 1886, married Marshall Co., Nov. 2, 1910, Freda Kohler, daughter of Rudolph and Rosa Messerli Kohler, born Marshalltown, Ia., Dec. 25, 1888.—111 NORTH 4TH ST., MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

1. Margaret Janette Bohen, born Marshalltown, Ia., July 25, 1912, married Marshalltown, Sept. 9, 1939, Guilford Collison, son of Dr. David A. and Edna Guilford Collison, born Marshalltown, Ia., May 9, 1911.—303 BRUSH CREEK BLVD., KANSAS CITY, MO.

2. Helen Ruth Bohen, born Marshalltown, Ia., July 23, 1914, married Marshalltown, June 9, 1940, John Ellis Berg, son of Charles A. and Grace Edna Coolidge Berg, born Marshalltown, Ia., July 16, 1913.—IOWA FALLS, IOWA.

3. Wilfreda Burnette Bohen, born Marshalltown, Ia., Apr. 1, 1916.—JACKSON LABORATORY, BAR HARBOR, MAINE.

V. GEORGE H. WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, Mar. 5, 1847, died Des Moines, Ia., Oct. 17, 1932, married Newton, Ia., June 24, 1877, Amanda Liesman, daughter of Rev. Herman and Elizabeth Hey Liesman, born Naperville, Ill., June 24, 1859, died Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 18, 1930. Both are interred at Melbourne, Ia.

Aunt Amanda's mother was born in Cologne (Koln) Germany, and her father in Braunschweig. They were married in Cologne before coming to America.

George and Gretchen came to Iowa with their mother from Illinois, probably in March, 1868, that being the date of purchase of her farm in Timbercreek Township, Marshall

County. George lived with his mother until her death in 1872, when his twin sister's home became his also. He continued to live with Gretchen and William when, after Grandmother's estate was settled, they bought her farm.

Following their marriage, he and Amanda purchased a farm northeast of Van Cleve. Letters written during this period name Capron as the post office. About 1890, with their four boys, they went to Oregon with the intention of settling there, but the school facilities for the boys, as well as the climate, proved unfavorable. They returned to Iowa and bought a farm two miles west and a fourth mile north of Van Cleve. Later, retiring from the farm, the parents lived in Melbourne for a few years and then removed to Long Beach, California. It was from here they returned to attend the second Wessels reunion held in Marshalltown in 1927.

Greatly interested in the first printing of the family history, Uncle George supplied much valuable information concerning the early history of the family which is again included in the present narrative.

1. HERMAN GEORGE FREDERICK WESSELS, born Marshall Co., Ia., May 30, 1878, died Laurel, Ia., Aug. 14, 1939, married St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 21, 1916, Margaret Brown, daughter of Daniel and Louise Brand Brown, born Laurel, Ia., Aug. 7, 1885.—LAUREL, IOWA.
 1. Shirley Maxine Wessels, born Laurel, Ia., Aug. 1, 1917.
2. OTTO GEORGE BISMARCK WESSELS, born Marshall Co., Ia., Apr. 25, 1880, married Feb. 18, 1903, Ethel Lillian Anderson, born Melvin, Ill., June 28, 1884, daughter of Rev. J. H. and Maggie Mitchell Anderson.—1409 HARRISON AVE., DES MOINES, IOWA.
 1. Marjorie Nadine Wessels, born Melbourne, Ia., Aug. 23, 1904.
 2. Norma Elizabeth Wessels, born Melbourne, Ia., Aug. 29, 1908, married Ames, Ia., June 10, 1935, George Samuel Paul, son of William and Lettie McCaulley Paul, born Lake City, Ia., Feb. 1, 1910.—CLARENCE, IOWA.
 1. Norman Douglas Paul, born Clarence, Ia., Jan. 25, 1937.
3. GEORGE WILLIAM WESSELS, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 15, 1881, married Sept. 20, 1911, Mertia Avery, daughter of George and Fannie Johnson Avery, born Ottumwa, Ia., Dec. 13, 1879.—533 48TH ST., DES MOINES, IOWA.
 1. George Avery Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 6, 1913.
 2. John Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 7, 1914.

3. Ruth Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 18, 1916.
 4. Robert Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 30, 1918.
 4. WILLIAM GEORGE WESSELS, born Marshall Co., Ia., Aug. 31, 1883, married Sept. 2, 1922, Rena Reece, daughter of Edward and Jessie Curry Reece, born Anamosa, Ia., Oct. 16, 1894.—1447 45TH. ST., DES MOINES, IOWA.
 1. Wilma Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., July 27, 1923.
 2. Dorothy Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 5, 1925.
 3. William Reece Wessels, born Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 3, 1927.
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VI. GRETCHEN WESSELS, born Neermoor, Ostfriesland, Hanover, Germany, Mar. 5, 1847, died Van Cleve, Ia., Feb. 2, 1900, married Marshalltown, Ia., Apr. 5, 1870, William Bosch, son of Peter Bosch, born Schottwarden, Hanover, Germany, Oct. 29, 1838, died Van Cleve, Ia., Nov. 9, 1922. Both are buried in the Laurel Methodist Cemetery, the lot adjoining that of Grandmother Gepke Wessels.

William Bosch came from Germany about 1866 or 1867, sailing from Bremerhaven, Hanover. At the time of their marriage, he was employed on the Harges farm in Jefferson Township, Marshall County, and he and Gretchen then lived on this farm, three-fourths of a mile west of Haverhill.

Following the death of Grandmother Wessels in 1872, they purchased her farm and later what was known as the Coppersmith place. After a time the family moved back on to the Grandmother Wessels place, which they sold to John Stalzer. Through their declining years they lived on a farm two miles south of Van Cleve, now occupied by the Wessel Bosch family.

For many years the family attended German Lutheran Church services conducted in a school house three-fourths of a mile west of Haverhill, served by pastors from State Center or Dillon, and here the older children were confirmed. This is the same church attended by the Bohen family, to which reference has been made.

One item of interest was no doubt duplicated many times during those early years. Beginning housekeeping with the barest necessities which included no clock, Gretchen and William improvised a sun dial on a window sill, checking it from the watches of those who called.

1. PETER EVERETT BOSCH, born Marshall County, Ia., Jan. 3, 1871, married Marshall Co., Feb. 17, 1897, Ella Elizabeth Tigges, daughter of Ernest and Mary Stier Tigges, born Marshall Co., Aug. 7, 1878.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.

1. Elvera Gretchen Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Oct. 10, 1898.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
2. Erma Marie Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 12, 1907, married Charles City, Ia., Feb. 18, 1928, Harry Ballard, son of Frank and Alice Pickering Ballard, born June 20, 1903.—1005 W. STATE ST., MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.
 1. Ladonna Lee Ballard, born Marshalltown, Ia., Mar. 9, 1933.
 2. Corrine Kay Ballard, born Marshalltown, Ia., Aug. 17, 1938.
2. HEYE G. BOSCH, born Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 26, 1873, married Van Cleve, Ia., Apr. 23, 1902, Mary Pothast, daughter of Ernest and Wilhelmina Baker Pothast, born Marshall Co., Ia., June 15, 1876, died Jan. 28, 1934, buried Maple Grove Cemetery, Melbourne.—HAVERHILL, IOWA.
 1. Esther Ruth Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Aug. 20, 1904, married Marshalltown, Ia., Mar. 18, 1936, Lewis Martin Phillips, son of Charles Hiram and Anna Jones Phillips, born Correctionville, Ia., July 26, 1907.—R. R. No. 4, MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.
 2. Lloyd William Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Sept. 14, 1908.
 3. Marvin August Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Apr. 17, 1912, married Gowrie, Ia., June 30, 1937, Violet Erickson, daughter of Emil and Adalyn Nystrom Erickson, born Gowrie, Ia., Sept. 14, 1913.—MELBOURNE, IOWA.
 1. Dale Marvin Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Aug. 19, 1938.
3. WESSEL F. BOSCH, born Marshall Co., Ia., Dec. 4, 1874, married Hillrose, Colo., Feb. 10, 1904, Annie Tigges, daughter of Ernest and Mary Stier Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., May 23, 1881.—MELBOURNE, IOWA.
 1. Viola Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Dec. 19, 1904, married near Van Cleve, Ia., Nov. 25, 1926, Raymond Vogt, son of Harry and Etta Cook Vogt, born Marshall Co., Ia., July 19, 1902.—MELBOURNE, IOWA.
 1. Kenneth Dean Vogt, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 5, 1927.
 2. Norman Wayne Vogt, born Melbourne, Ia., Sept. 6, 1932.
 3. Lauren Cecil Vogt, born Melbourne, Ia., Sept. 24, 1933.
 4. Delvin Francis Vogt, born Melbourne, Ia., Sept. 8, 1934, died Sept. 10, 1934. Buried Melbourne, Ia.

2. Beulah Gretchen Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Sept. 19, 1908, married Canton, S. Dak., May 24, 1935, John Dahms, son of Henry C. and Anna Speth Dahms, both from Keil, Schleswig Holstein, Germany. John born Gladbrook, Ia., Jan. 18, 1897.—TOLEDO, IOWA.
 1. Marilee Dahms, born Marshalltown, Ia., Oct. 26, 1936.
 2. Joyce Ellen Dahms, born Marshalltown, Ia., May 16, 1940.
3. Harold Bosch, born Marshall Co., Ia., Feb. 15, 1911, married Nashua, Ia., June 8, 1940, Anna Mae Samson, daughter of Charles C. and Blanche Mae Jones Samson, born Nevada, Ia., Aug. 24, 1917.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
4. KATE ELIZABETH BOSCH, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 23, 1876, married Marshall Co., Ia., Jan. 23, 1901, Fred W. Tigges, son of William and Mary Harges Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., May 7, 1875, died May 20, 1935, buried St. John's Evangelical Church Cemetery, Haverhill. See also biographical sketch Fred W. Tigges, Marshall Co. History, 1912.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
 1. Herbert W. Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 8, 1901, married Villisca, Ia., May 22, 1922, Naoma Wasson, daughter of George and Esther Wymore Wasson, born Page Co., Ia., Jan. 7, 1900.—MELBOURNE, IOWA.
 1. Delmar Lee Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 22, 1925.
 2. Leonard Leon Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., Nov. 23, 1926.
 2. Lester Richard Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., Dec. 9, 1904, died Nov. 5, 1905, Marshall Co., Ia. Buried St. John's Evangelical Church Cemetery.
 3. Bernice Gretchen Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., June 23, 1907, married Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 20, 1935, Virgil Fox, son of Charles Alfred and Anna Mary Lisle Fox, born Dallas Center, Ia., Apr. 23, 1908.—WEST DES MOINES, IOWA.
 1. Jewel Kay Fox, born Des Moines, Ia., Apr. 8, 1937.
 2. Virgil Grant Fox, Jr., born Des Moines, Ia., July 22, 1939.
 4. Bertha Marie Tigges, born Marshall Co., Ia., June 23, 1907, married New York City, June 15, 1935, Lester Tyler Jones, son of Lester D. and Harriet Tyler Jones, born Uniontown, Pa., Jan. 9, 1905.—DES MOINES, IA.
 1. Benjamin Rees Jones, born Des Moines, Ia., June 26, 1937.

2. Lester Tyler Jones, Jr., born Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 5, 1939.
5. JOHN CHRISTIAN BOSCH, born Haverhill, Marshall Co., Ia., Dec. 23, 1878.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
6. ABBIE BOSCH, born Haverhill, Marshall Co., Ia., Apr. 21, 1881, married Marshall Co., May 1, 1910, William Frederick Otte, born Freeport, Ill., Feb. 14, 1876, died Van Cleve, Ia., Oct. 17, 1923. Buried Methodist Cemetery, Laurel, Ia. —VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
7. MINNIE BOSCH, born Marshall Co., Ia., Apr. 17, 1883, married Marshall Co., Feb. 26, 1908, Ernest J. Amendt, son of Adam and Fredericka Otte Amendt, born Van Cleve, Ia., June 23, 1882.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
1. Son, born and died Mar. 29, 1915, Haverhill, Ia. Buried M. E. Cemetery, Laurel, Ia.
8. TALETTA DOROTHEA BOSCH, born Haverhill, Marshall Co., Ia., Aug. 2, 1888, married Marshall Co., Sept. 6, 1911, Gustave Amendt, son of Adam and Fredericka Otte Amendt, born Van Cleve, Ia., Nov. 26, 1884.—VAN CLEVE, IOWA.
1. Delbert Amendt, born Van Cleve, Ia., Aug. 12, 1919, died Jan. 5, 1922. Buried M. E. Cemetery, Laurel, Ia.

1359826

WESSELS FAMILY REUNIONS

The first reunion was held in Riverview Park, Marshalltown, early in August, 1926, following plans made a few days earlier while Kate and Henry Wessels were visiting in the home of Kate and Fred Tigges.

Marshalltown, Ia., August 1926.....	Attendance	52
Marshalltown, Ia., Sept. 1, 1927.....	"	97
Parkersburg, Ia., Sept. 2, 1928.....	"	58
Belmond, Ia., Aug. 25, 1929.....	"	78
Eldora, Ia., Aug. 31, 1930.....	"	
Waterloo, Ia., August 16, 1931.....	Registered	57
Hudson, Ia., Aug. 15, 1932.....	"	38
Hudson, Ia., Aug. 20, 1933.....	"	56
Boone, Ia., Aug. 19, 1934.....	"	63
Iowa Falls, Ia., Aug. 18, 1935.....	"	96
Iowa Falls, Ia., Aug. 16, 1936.....	"	61
Boone, Ia., Aug. 15, 1937.....	"	75
Clear Lake, Ia., Aug. 21, 1938.....	"	
Hampton, Ia., Aug. 20, 1939.....	"	55
Hampton, Ia., Aug. 18, 1940.....	"	

ADDENDA

The full names of Heijen and Gepke Wessels were taken from a certificate among John Wessels' papers, issued by the military authorities of his district, granting him permission to come to the United States, and to return at any time.

The first three years of German military training were spent in the regular army, the next four in the reserves, and the next five in the militia.

Queen Elizabeth referred to is undoubtedly Queen Elizabeth Christina of Prussia (1715-1797), wife of Frederick the Great. Both she and Frederick were intensely interested in French refugees, under whom he had been educated and whose language he always preferred to German. Elizabeth wrote several works in French.

Gepke's cousin, Jacob G. Schmit (1791-1881) and his wife, Frauke DeGraff Schmit (1805-1874) are buried at Forreston, Illinois. A son, Jackson, and a daughter, Henrietta, Mrs. George Dannen, later removed to Marshall County, Iowa, after Grandmother Wessels was living there.

The deed to Gepke Wessels for the Freeport farm is recorded in Book 30, page 511, of the Stephenson County records. In Book 37, page 298 is recorded her deed to Jacob Herrmann for this same farm, dated September 10, 1863, consideration, \$3,975.00. She accepted a mortgage back for the greater portion of the purchase price, and evidently delayed purchase of the Marshall County farm until this was paid. She continued to live on the farm, however, until coming to Marshall County.

Grandmother Wessels provided each of her children with a linen chest, containing among other things, six fine linen and six coarser linen sheets, brought from Germany, and each marked with the child's initials in the daintiest stitches imaginable. Pillow cases were also of fine linen and of course also hand made. At least one sheet and one pillow case, and cherished remnants of others, remain in the family's possession. A few pieces of her jewelry and silver also have been kept.

Information regarding the early history of the family had been secured in most instances through personal conversations with the older members of the family, two or three of them meeting together whenever possible. Later this information was checked for accuracy. Family, cemetery, and court records, old letters, histories of Stephenson, Ogle and Marshall Counties, London Times and other atlases, encyclopedias and German histories were all used in completing, so far as possible, the family stories.

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Each married daughter and daughter-in-law is indexed under both her family and married names:

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Anna	12	John Ellis	20
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Grace Lameyer	10	Hannah Manus	8
Harry Floyd	10	Lorraine	8
Henry	12	Myron	8
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Jennie	12	Wesley Roger	8
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John George	10	Elizabeth Katherine	18
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Marilyn May	10	Freda Kohler	20
Matilda	12	Hattie Lena	18
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Peter	12	Ida Victoria	19
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Mary Pothast	23	Eunice Willim	18
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Sarah Rhodes	15	Raymond Henry	16
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